

Friday Night

Dear Mom:

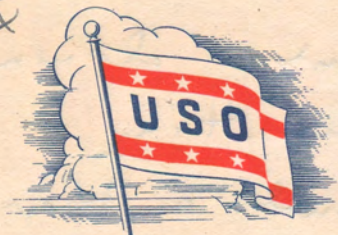
Hello honey, how are you? I'm at the U.S.O. now and it's crowded as hell, in fact all you see all over town are soldiers and more soldiers.

I ate dinner at the Brooklyn Spaghetti House. It was pretty comfy.

This afternoon we stood retreat, that's when they lower the flag. It was very impressive lined up on the huge parade ground were about 15,000 men. We all saluted while the flag was lowered and the band plays the national anthem. Then we

passed in review in front
of the C.O., who, by
the way, is now a
Colonel, General Brady
having left.

There was one
quite funny thing about
the ceremony. The C.O.
stands about 300 feet
from the main group,
consisting of all the
~~training~~ wing groups in
camp. He gives his
orders to the adjutant
who in turn has to
give the orders of the
C.O. to the O.D. who
is about 200 feet from
the C.O. But in order
to do this ^(the adjutant) he has
to walk to the O.D. (officer
of the day). He covers that



200 feet in record time but he can't run. It's very comical to see him swooting back and forth between these two men, his gate being quite similar to a man ~~in~~ in a walking race.

I got your package today hon, and thanks alot. That fruit cake will hit the spot after a good workout on the drill field. And that candy is just what I like with the chewy centers. Thanks again, angel.

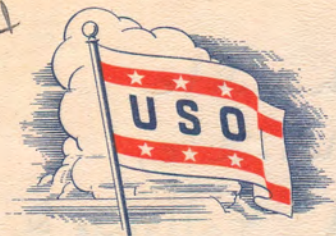
Mom, when you address my letters don't put the

training group number down,
that is 1176. For one thing
it's not necessary, and another
thing I'm in 1177 now.

Jim Koeniger is shopping
out Sunday, boy is he
lucky.

I'm learning a hell of
a lot down here. Yesterday
I Field stripped a Carbine.
an automatic rifle that
fires 15 shots as fast
as you can pull the trigger.
It's a sweet piece. (Rifles
aren't called that here, they're
pieces.) Next week we'll
start using the Thompson
Submachine Gun!

I got a seven page
letter from Rudy today,
also one from Charlie,
and a card from ace



I thrilled to hear that you rented the apartment, sweetheart, and I think ~~so~~ is ~~set~~ a good price. If I'm still here when you go to Texas try and work it so you can stop by and see me on the way.

It's starting get damned cold down here. We had frost this morning, and along with the cold we had to go over the obstacle course right after breakfast.

This course is really terrific. It starts off

with a 3 foot hurdle,
then a 5 foot hurdle,
an 8 foot wall, followed
by a ladder, horizontal
to the ground which we
have to hang on to
and reach across moving
to winny. Then there is
a 2 foot hurdle, a
20 foot ladder we have
to climb up and over
and down the other
side. The next thing we
meet is a 5 foot
wall then a bunch of
logs we have to walk
over, succeeded by a log
over a stream that we
have to cross hand over
hand. This we call Guadalupe.
quite a few fellows fall
in the drink. Then finally

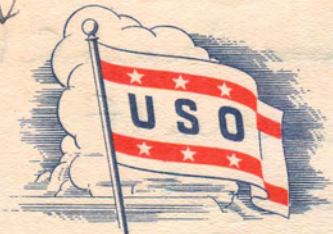
FREE



FROM Put Johnson Clark,
301st Engineering BTL
Greensboro, N.C.

Mrs. Ruth S. Clark
64 Chaucery Ave.
New Rochelle, New York

IV



we come upon a low tunnel ~~we~~ have to crawl through. One fellow went over this course in 2 min and 14 seconds. That's really 'goin' some.

My ~~no!~~ watch broke today so I'll have to have it fixed, for a change. That's all I do to that hairy thing, break it and have it fixed. Did I tell you I got a letter from Nan? Thank her for me.

Well I have to get

back to camp ~~see~~ beautiful,
so take care of yourself
and tell Bobby to get
rid of that cold. I feel
very flattened that she
should copy over my letter.
I really love those two daughters
of yours, you don't realize it
until you're far away from
them. I love you too, darling,
more than you or anyone
can ever know. Good night
sweet heart.

Ludd